

December, 1961

# the Carolina Farmer

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CAROLINA'S RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES

ARABELLA  
a read-aloud Christmas story

INGATHERING  
at a country church

LIBRARIAN  
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CHAPEL HILL N. C.

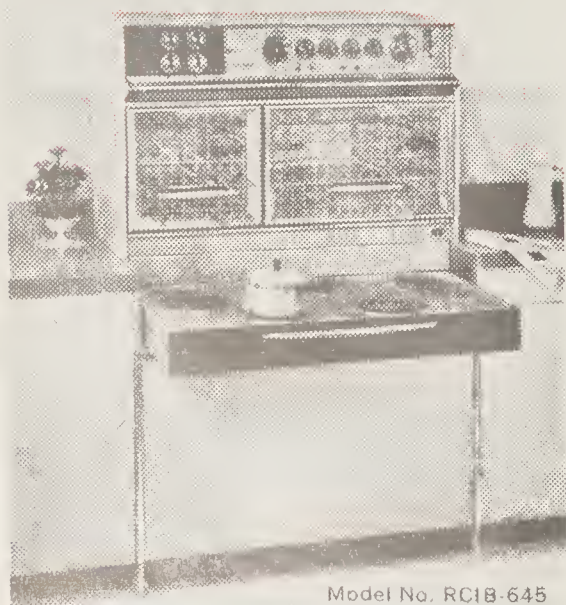






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# the Carolina Farmer

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## 'I'd rather be ...'

It takes an awful lot to make some people happy. Almost every day you can pick up a newspaper and read about some "patriot" who is damning our government or its leaders—or almost any other present-day activity or leader.

These "patriots" lash out at anything that strikes their fancies—one day it's rural electrification, the next the Supreme Court. And the following day they may decry the "fact" that our country is becoming a democracy instead of a republic!

They whirl around carrying signs proclaiming they'd rather be dead than red (while across the street others have placards declaring they'd rather be red than dead).

What everyone seems to have forgotten in the midst of all the preaching and sign waving is that he *is*.

Some of these folks should stop and take stock. Have they thought about what is theirs simply because they were born in this country? Their fat wallets and full tummies would tremble at the thought of having to live elsewhere—maybe in a place where they couldn't spout their sickening accusations.

Those who continually holler for a return to the "good old days" should remember that one thing we've learned from the "good old days" is that we wouldn't want to repeat most of them.

During this Holiday Season, let's stop and count the many blessings our way of life has brought us—and resolve to strive for a better tomorrow for ourselves and our neighbors around the world.

**THE COVER**—The photo is of the Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church, built in 1809, and located in beautiful Tanglewood Park near Winston-Salem. The park, which contains recreational facilities and a beautiful lodge, is known officially as the William and Kate B. Reynolds Memorial Park. Located atop a hill, the church is served by a group of ministers in the area on a rotation plan.

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**Plan Ahead:** If you're looking ahead to 1962, there are a couple of things I'm sure you won't want to miss. For instance, January is Large Economy Size Month. And June is

National Ragweed Control Month.

Personally, I'm looking forward to Aug. 8. That's when the International Association of Characters, Ltd., will celebrate International Character Day.

All of this vital information was gleaned from the *Publishers' Auxiliary*, a newspaper for newspapers. A recent issue carried its annual list of special events for the coming year.

**By Bread Alone:** If the list is an indication, 1962 will be the year in which a concerted effort will be made to get us to live by bread alone.

A check shows that January is Wheat Bread Month, March is Buttermilk Month, May is White Bread Month, July is Rye Bread Month, September is Protein Bread Month and November is Raisin Bread Month.

We'll also have National Retail Bakers Week, National Sandwich Month, Biscuit and Muffin Month—and the Amer-

ican Bakers Association is sponsoring Let's Eat Outdoors Month and Good Breakfast Month.

I'm waiting for someone to declare Dec. 30 as National Next-Slice-to-the-End Day.

**Food for Thought:** But the other food people are getting in their licks, too. Take the pickle folks. They'll have Pickle Ways for Meatless Days, National Pickle Week, Pickles for Picnic Time Month and Holidays Are Pickle Days.

If you're not a purist, you can throw in Spanish Green Olive Week—which comes some months later than National Pimiento Week.

And at least 30 other foods are scheduled to be honored during the year!

**He Who Laughs:** If you think all of this deserves a good laugh, you're with me. And somebody must agree with us—look what's on tap for '62: National Save the Pun Week, National Smile Week, National Laugh Week, American Comedy Week, National Humor Week and National Clown Week.

**Smile When You Say That:** It may be worth noting that the American Museum of Comedy, sponsor of American Comedy Week, also sponsors Mother-In-Law Day. Not to be outdone, the National Association of Gagwriters, sponsor of National Laugh Week, also backs Father-In-Law Day.

**Every Dog Has His Day:** As might be expected, there is a special time set aside for dogs—as well as cats, rabbits, caged birds, horses and other assorted pets.

In fact, from the looks of things, everyone but grandfather will have his day in 1962. In addition to the days for in-laws and the traditional Mothers Day and Fathers Day, there will be Youth Week, National Baby Week, National Family Week, Grandmothers' Glamour Day, Salute to the Housewife Week, Bachelor's Day and Old Maid's Day.

It seems a crime not to give grandfather his proper due. Perhaps something ought to be done about it during National Crime Prevention Week.

**For a Good Cause:** Anyway, I've figured out what to do with the list. I'm giving it to a friend who's always looking for an excuse to celebrate. He should have a good year.

Gertrude

by Ted Trogdon



"ACHOOO!"



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# INGATHERING

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## in a country

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# CHURCH

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By LEE WILDER

---

*Now — as it was nearly 200 years ago — the people of Laurel Hill Church collect the fruits of the earth for the glory of the Lord*

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Munching on a hushpuppy in the shade of giant oak trees, I found it hard to believe that General Sherman's army once had camped there.

It was the November ingathering of the women's auxiliary of Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church, founded in 1797, a few miles out of Laurinburg.

A steady stream of visitors filed in and out of the frame building on the church grounds. Every inch of the long board tables was filled with the handiwork of the women.

There were jars of sweet pickles and jellies and conserve; there were gay cotton aprons, children's toys and a quilt pieced by hand.

Cakes so splendid as to take your breath away towered on a table beside the door. Plastic wrap protected the fluffy frosting from the poking of little boys' fingers.

Workers had been there since dawn, helped by many a husband, and some of the men had flushed faces as they turned the barbecuing chicken and pork over the coals.

\* \* \*

Who brings the offerings from home for the annual church benefit? "Just everybody in the church," said Mrs. Ben Owens of Laurinburg.

Years ago, huge bales of cotton were sold beneath the centuries-old oaks. There were sweet po-

tatoes in great stacks, next to harnessed squealing pigs.

Now, the ingathering is inclined to smaller articles like potted geraniums and other plants, baked goods, candy or bags of picked turnip greens, spicy and crisp.

Under the long barbecue shelter, women ladled out barbecue and slaw with golden mounds of hot hushpuppies. Mrs. C. R. Terrell, the church minister's wife, helped serve more than 370 box lunches to go out.

In all, that day, more than 1200 plates were piled high with smoky-scented and generous portions of food.

\* \* \*

WE ate at tables under the trees where once the stagecoach stopped to take and deliver passengers. "Over there was the first telegraph line between North and South Carolina," said the Rev. Terrell.

"In the church tower you can still see the names and addresses of Union soldiers, written during Sherman's campout here," he said.

Would I like to see them? I would, and on the stroll toward the glistening white church I met many of the congregation who are members of Pee Dee or Lumbee River cooperatives.



The interior of the church looked stately with age, and showed the sparseness of architectural detail that marked the era. Handmade pews once were used by the choir, and slaves were seated in the upstairs gallery before the Civil War.

These same pews are said to have been taken apart and used as a road bed over Jordan Creek Swamp so that Sherman's ammunition trains wouldn't bog down.

We climbed the smooth old steps and passed the attic where wooden beams four by 12 inches thick spread the entire width of the church.

"Some trees those were," said the minister, following my glance.

As we ascended into the tower by way of a small trap door I glimpsed the signatures on the walls. And the wasps. Thousands of them buzzed blackly against the old glass panes.

I aimed my camera, and the wasps began to buzz and cluster.

"I think it's time for us to leave," I said, looking at the only exit. The Rev. Terrell agreed, and we began to descend.

A wasp lit on my bouffant hairdo, and a more fervent prayer never went skyward. I could just imagine a wasp lost in that pouf of hair.

\* \* \*

**O**UTSIDE in the shifting sunlight, more than 250 members of the church talked leisurely with each other and with friends from other countries.

My hosts, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Sanford of Laurinburg, were familiar figures to everyone, and not because they are parents of North Carolina's governor, Terry Sanford.

They've lived in this section for more than 40 years, and know child and grandparent by first names.

Clarence Litch of Raeford, his silver hair glinting in the sun, stopped for a few minutes of spirited repartee with his old friend, Mr. Sanford.

Each topped the other with veiled but happy insults. Mr. Litch, it seems, had suggested that Mr. Sanford looked very well, "for an old man."

"I was taught to call you Mr. Litch when I was a child," replied Mr. Sanford, gently.

We listened, with twinkling eyes, and the youngster at the next table flatly demanded more cake, and the women visited.

"I don't remember seeing her before," said one. "Do you not know her?" another replied. "She was a Curry. She's on the slaw today."

And she who was on the coffee machine counted cups, and the day was filled with the serenity of the countryside.

For the church, the women cleared more than \$2,100, to be used in countless works.

Ingathering today, as 200 years ago, collected and secured the fruits of the earth for the glory of the Lord. And next year, there'll be another.



Sherman's army once encamped in the Laurel Hill Presbyterian Church. It was founded in 1797 on oak-shaded land a few miles from Laurinburg, and descendants of the original Scotch settlers still attend the church.

The scent of barbecue attracts throngs to the benefit sale of handmade and homemade products. Youngsters and parents and grandparents gather beneath the shelters and trees for a noon meal of chicken and pork with slaw and hushpuppies.





# KEEPING UP with rural electrification

By Walter Fuller, executive manager, Tarheel Electric Membership Association



The customers of Nantahala Power and Light Company have spoken out in favor of TVA power. In a petition filed Nov. 22 with the North Carolina Utilities Commission, more than 11,700 present customers of Nantahala registered their opposition to the proposed sale of the company's distribution facilities to Duke Power Company and asked the Utilities Commission, TVA, Haywood Electric Membership Corporation, Blue Ridge Electric Association, Duke, Nantahala, and other state and national groups to take all necessary action to the end that TVA power—at TVA retail rates—be furnished to the area now served by Nantahala.

The petition was filed with the Utilities Commission by Lacy Thornburg in the soon-to-start hearing on the proposed sale of Nantahala's distribution facilities to Duke. Thornburg is secretary of the Five County Committee for TVA Power and attorney for other citizens' groups opposing the sale to Duke.

Henry J. Truett, Bryson City, president of the group, brought the petitions to Raleigh from Western North Carolina by special plane. Copies also were delivered to Duke attorneys in Charlotte and Nantahala attorneys in Raleigh.

Truett said in Raleigh last month that he expects several thousand more Nantahala customers to sign petitions asking for TVA power. He indicated that only a handful of residents in the five counties are refusing to sign.

The people in the five counties of Jackson, Swain, Macon, Cherokee and Graham contend that the sale of Nantahala's facilities to Duke would deprive them of the benefits of their own natural resources—acquired by Nantahala partially through exercise of the right of eminent domain.

The petitions also opposed Nantahala's requested 33 1/3 percent rate increase, which is now in effect under bond. Area spokesmen say that the bonded rates are already working hardships on many small businessmen.

The hearing before the Utilities Commission on the proposed Nantahala-Duke sale is scheduled to get underway Dec. 12, following the Commission's denial of a motion by Haywood EMC and Blue Ridge Electric Association. The two co-ops had asked that the hearing be postponed until the rate increase hearing is settled. The co-ops, who are also seeking to buy the same properties that Duke wants to buy from Nantahala, were allowed to become intervenors in the sale case, however.

Meanwhile, the rate increase hearing has been recessed until further notice from the Commission. When the hearing was recessed, Nantahala attorneys had finished cross-examination of a consultant hired by the State to study the Nantahala case.



The North Carolina Utilities Commission has reached no decision as to what, if any, policy it will establish in connection with utility "tax and accounting treatment of liberalized (accelerated) depreciation for rate-making purposes."



# KEEPING UP

with rural electrification

*Continued*

Although hearings which began in October, 1960, have been completed for several months, Chairman Harry T. Westcott says that no decision has been reached. He says, however, that the matter is still active and under study by the Commission.

Such delays may have been in the minds of a former member and a present member of the Commission in declaring that the State's utility laws need revamping.

The real question at stake is: Should North Carolina's cost-plus utilities be required to use the most efficient legal management practices in payment of federal taxes? If so, should any savings be passed directly on to the consumer?

The major profit electric utilities of North Carolina have vigorously opposed the idea they should be required to take advantage of a legal internal revenue provision for accelerated depreciation.

The North Carolina Attorney General and North Carolina EMC contend that the customers of electric utilities could realize millions of dollars in savings if the companies would take advantage of the accelerated depreciation allowance—and pass these savings on to their customers.



Secretary of Interior Stewart L. Udall has pinpointed one of the goals of the present administration as utilizing the energy from federally constructed hydroelectric plants to the highest possible degree in enriching the economy of the area which they serve.

To accomplish this end the secretary sees the need for power development and for pooling supplies by means of high-voltage tie-lines.

Virginia Electric Power and Light Company, Carolina Power and Light Company, Duke Power Company and South Carolina Gas and Electric Company recently announced plans for high-voltage tie-in facilities. The four companies plan to pool their power supplies to bring about more efficient and dependable operation.

High-voltage lines between Southeastern Power Administration, Southwestern Power Administration and the Tennessee Valley Authority offer the same opportunity for greater efficiency and dependability—as well as an opportunity to make sizable contributions in enriching the economy of the area.



The federal Rural Electrification Administration has received from a representative of an Iowa rural electric cooperative the one billionth dollar repaid on the principal of rural electrification loans.

The president of Allamakee-Clayton Electric Cooperative, Inc., turned over to REA Administrator Norman M. Clapp a check for \$43,272, representing the co-op's regular payment. The check put principal repayments to the government by REA's electric borrowers over the \$1 billion mark.

Said Clapp: "This repayment of the billionth dollar loaned under the REA rural electrification program is a dramatic demonstration that REA loans are not an expense, but an investment. I congratulate all those men and women who organized the rural electric systems which have contributed to the wonderful record attained by them. All of them are repaying the faith of their fellow-Americans everywhere, and all Americans in turn owe them an everlasting debt of gratitude for what they are doing for our national economy."



# ARABELLA

## A read-aloud Christmas story

By *ELSIE CORBITT CURRIN, with drawings by  
her 10-year-old daughter, BRENDA BLANCHARD*

ONCE upon a Christmas Eve, many, many years ago, Santa Claus left a doll under the tree in a big old country farmhouse. In that house a little girl named Belle was fast asleep in her soft feather bed. On her bed was a patchwork quilt made of tiny squares of red and white and blue and yellow and green cloth.

Belle woke up early Christmas morning, while the world was still quite dark. There were no electric lights in her house. She felt in the darkness for a match and lighted her little kerosene lamp.

Barefoot, she tip-toed across the chilly floor in her long blue flannel nightgown. The parlor door squeaked as she went into the magic Christmas room. The tinsel shimmered and glittered as she moved nearer the tree with her lamp. Ever so carefully she put it on a marble-top table and ran to see what Santa Claus had left.

And there it was! The most beautiful doll in all the world. A doll dressed in fluffy ruffles and lace and little high top shoes that buttoned up the side with tiny shoe buttons—just like the shoes that Belle wore on Sundays.

Out from under the brim of her bonnet peeped soft brown curls. When Belle lifted the doll from the box she opened her eyes and cried, "Mamma."

"Oh my beautiful, beautiful doll." Belle laughed as she hugged her precious doll close in her arms. "I'll call you Arabella."

Mother and Daddy heard Belle in the parlor, so Daddy got up out of his warm feather bed, too. He kindled a fire in the parlor heater and soon the wood snapped and popped and everything was warm and cozy.

"Merry Christmas!" Mother called as she came in.

"Merry Christmas, Mother," Belle sang out happily as she ran to kiss her and show her Arabella.

"Isn't she the prettiest doll that Santa Claus ever made?"

"She is a lovely doll. Daddy and I wanted this doll to be very special. Before long you'll be too old to play with dolls." Belle hugged her doll close to her again and promised, "I'll never be too old to love you, Arabella. Never."

ON the longer winter evenings, Belle sat in her little wooden chair by the heater and rocked Arabella. And when she put her in her box, Arabella closed her sleepy brown eyes.

While Belle was at school, Arabella waited patiently in the

box until the loving little hands lifted her again. Then she opened her eyes and cried, "Mamma."

Like Mother had said, Belle did grow to old to play with dolls. But she did not forget Arabella. Even when she was quite grown up, and people began to call her Miss Belle, she would still take Arabella from the box. Arabella would open her eyes and cry, "Mamma." Then Miss Belle would hug her close again and say to her, "You are still the most beautiful doll in all the world."

But even after Miss Belle went away to learn to be a nurse, Arabella was sometimes lifted from her box. It was Miss Belle's Mother that held her in her arms and remembered her little girl—a grown up woman now.

And sometimes when children came, they could hold Arabella in their arms and rock her in the little wooden chair.

Then one day another little girl came to live in Miss Belle's home. And many, many times did she slip into the room and play with Arabella. And because the little girl had never had a nice doll of her own, Miss Belle's Mother wrote the letter that said,

"Your little niece Amy has come to live with us. She wants your doll very much."

And Miss Belle's letter said,

"Please give Arabella to Amy. I'm sure Arabella would be very happy to have a new little mama."

How Amy loved Arabella. She, too, held her in her arms and watched her open and close her eyes and listened to her cry "Mama."

"Oh Arabella. You are my doll—my very own doll. And I will love you forever."

ONE warm summer day, Amy was playing with Arabella on the veranda. Some little boys came to play, so Amy sat Arabella up in the little chair to watch while she and the boys played ball. But soon they grew tired of playing ball and started chasing and tagging each other. Amy forgot all about Arabella!

When it started to rain, poor Arabella sat very still and quiet while great sheets of rain swept across the veranda, wetting her stuffed body through and through.

Miss Belle's Mother found Arabella later. She pinned her by the tail of her dress to a line behind the big old cook stove in the kitchen to dry. She built up a big, hot fire and soon Arabella began to steam. The heat did dry her, to be sure.



But it left little cracks in her rosy cheeks. And after that when she said "Mama," it was not the same as before.

Amy cried and said, "Poor Arabella. She caught cold out in the rain." But she never forgot and left her out again.

Even Amy grew too old to play with dolls. When she, too, was quite grown up, she would sometimes take Arabella from her box and hold her in her arms and listen to her cry "Mama." But then she closed only one eye when she was put back into the box—for ever since the rain had wet her, Arabella slept with one eye open.

Then Amy got married. Her husband came to live on the farm and help Belle's mother with the farm work for Belle's father had gone away to heaven. And to make room for her new husband, many things had to be carried from Amy's room. Arabella went to stay in the attic.

And after Miss Belle's Mother went to live in heaven, many people came to buy things from the old farm house. They even searched in the attic—peeping in boxes and lifting old trunk lids. Nobody noticed when Arabella's box slid off of an old trunk. Nor did they see the doll that tumbled to the floor. Poor Arabella lay there alone in the cobwebs and darkness. No little hands came to lift her and make her open her eyes. No little hands turned her over lovingly to hear her cry "Mama."

Poor, poor Arabella. She just lay there while the moths nibbled at her wrinkled dress and the mice ran back and forth over her body.

One day a mother mouse ran across Arabella's hair—it felt so soft. "This would make a fine nest for my babies," the mother mouse probably said. And one by one she pulled strands of hair from Arabella's head.

For years and years and years, Arabella lay there while the mice stole her hair until every strand was gone.

ONE day, Amy's little boy came to play in the attic. "Look, Mommie, look," Teddy called. "I've found an old clown doll . . . with one eye open and one eye shut." He ran down to show it to his Mother.

"Oh Arabella!" Amy cried. "You *do* look like a clown—with your rosy cheeks and bald head!" She brushed the dust and cobwebs from the doll and dressed her in a red and white dotted clown suit. Strands of orange wool peeped out from under the tall pointed hat that she wore in place of her once beautiful curly hair.

"Well, you're not the most beautiful doll in the world anymore, but you do make a might silly clown," she said. But when Amy turned her over, Arabella still cried softly, "Mama."

Teddy dragged Arabella around the house by her arm or leg, bumping her head on the hard floor. He even dragged her behind him as he followed his daddy up and down the rows of newly plowed earth.

One day when Arabella cried "Mama" Teddy threw her to the floor and said, "I don't like you any more. You're always crying Mama."

And now even little Teddy was too old to play with dolls. Once again Arabella was thrown in a corner of the attic. And again the mice pulled at her hair—only it was orange wool now. And again the moths chewed away at her clothes.

It seemed as if there were no chance of anyone ever loving

Arabella again. Poor, poor Arabella, all alone there in the attic . . . until something wonderful happened. Miss Belle came home again. She went poking around in the attic. Every now and then she would go to the window and look at an old piece of ribbon, or some other trinket she took from the chest.

And then, in the tiny ray of sunlight that sifted through the dust and cobwebs on the window pane, she glimpsed something. A blue and white striped doll's sock. Eagerly she ran to the corner.

Could it be? Was it possible that it was the very same sock that her beloved Arabella had worn when Santa Claus left her that Christmas morning so very long ago?

Yes it was.

Belle lifted the dusty doll in her arms once more. Once more Arabella opened—not both eyes—but one. When she turned her on her tummy, once more she cried hoarsely "Mama."

"Oh Arabella, my beautiful Arabella. We've both grown old," Miss Belle cried. Excitedly she ripped off the clown clothes and found underneath the very same dress that she had worn the first time she saw her.

MISS Belle sat there on the floor—with her doll cradled in her arms—rocking her back and forth. Her tears splashed down on the dress that had been eaten by moths and yellowed with age. But she did not see these things . . . She saw her precious doll as she had seen her when she was a child, not as an ugly clown doll with a bald head, not as a nest for mice and moths and spiderwebs. She saw the little high-topped shoes and the tiny shoe buttons. "It's a miracle. That's what it is. That you should still wear both of your little blue striped socks after all these years—and all you must have been through."

Holding her treasure close to her heart, Miss Belle carried Arabella down the attic stairs for the last time.

That was the beginning of Arabella's new adventure. Carefully Miss Belle packed her in a box and sent her to the doll hospital. This time the letter said, "Please give my doll a curly new wig like the one she wore in 1918. And make her open and shut *both* eyes again."

At the doll hospital, they were glad to see Arabella. Tenderly they operated on her eyes—and made them both as good as new. Carefully they made her a new wig—and it was soft and curly as before. Skillfully they filled the cracks in her face and matched the rosy pink that had never faded from her cheeks.

At the nurses home, Miss Belle waited and waited and waited. Snow fell. Christmas lights blinked on Christmas trees in homes and store windows. Soon it was Christmas Eve again. And that was the very day that the mailman brought Miss Belle a big box.

And you know what was in that box, don't you?

Yes. It *was* Arabella. All dressed up to spend Christmas with her first mama.

Now she sits on Miss Belle's bed. When other nurses come to call, they see Arabella and they say, "What a lovely doll."

Then Miss Belle picks her up in her arms and holds her close, "Yes, she's the most beautiful doll in the whole world."

And Arabella softly cries, "Mama."

As she promised, Belle never did grow too old to love her beautiful Arabella!



The Piedmont Stave Company—a good example of

# Rural Development at Work

By ARCHIE HATHCOCK



Extensive use is made of air tools. This air stapling gun, in the hands of an experienced operator, can hammer in staples faster than the eye can follow. Here the bottom is fastened onto the coop.

MARSHVILLE'S Piedmont Stave Company is providing a "shot in the economic arm" of the area surrounding it. Its contribution to the area economy is shown by the 45 new jobs that have been created and the \$12,000 payroll these workers carry home each month.

The business is owned and managed by Delcy Pryor, president; his brother-in-law, Ezra Underhill, who is vice-president; and Delcy's son, Joe, who is secretary-treasurer.

Until about three years ago they owned three mills which they moved about from place to place—wherever they could find enough white oak timber. Then they decided to "stay put" and bring the timber to the mill.

"This has been better," says Underhill, "because staying put has allowed us to diversify and expand our operations."

And diversify they did! By making use of the by-products created in the manufacture of barrel staves, they are now making chicken coops—and soon they'll go into the production of broom and mop handles. They also have ideas in mind for other products.

"More of what we buy is being utilized so that now about the only waste we have is the sawdust," says Underhill. "The stave business is still our bread and butter," he adds, "but we expect the chicken coop to supplement our income and give our workers more full-time employment."

A unique aspect of the "bread and butter" part of the business is that all of the staves made by Piedmont are sold to distilleries in England. Once each month the staves are shipped to Charleston, S. C., where they are loaded aboard a ship bound for England. This, of course, means that a sizable amount of Piedmont's income comes from outside the United States.

"We're in the market for good quality white oak anywhere within a radius of





Here the "bolts" are split rather than sawed. Staves cut across the grain must be rejected.

a hundred miles or so," says Underhill. The company will purchase the white oak on the stump or any way the owner wants to sell. Piedmont buys only white oak since it is the only suitable wood for stave making.

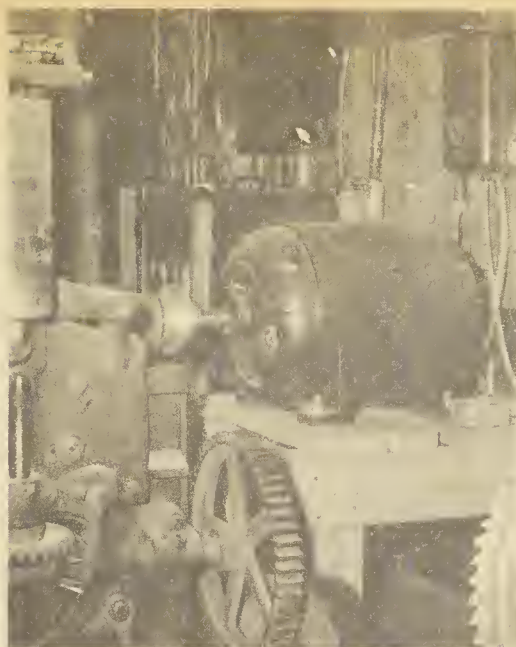
So far the by-products from stave making have been sufficient for carrying on the manufacture of the chicken coops. "The time may come, though, when we'll have to buy additional wood for this part of the business," says Underhill.

Back in August when the decision was made to go into the production of the coops, Pee Dee Electric Membership Corporation of Wadesboro made three-phase power available. Before then, little use was made of electric power. Diesel engines powered most of the equipment.

Now, however, all but one of the diesels have been replaced by electric motors. This last one is scheduled to be replaced by a 50-horsepower electric motor in the near future.

And diversification has meant that Piedmont has put into use many additional tools that are driven by electric motors. The company is finding that electric power is more versatile and more adaptable to the jobs it has to do.

"The company is a perfect example of rural development at work," says Hey-



More than 50 electric motors are used in this building where the chicken coops are made. This one powers a lathe.



Here is the finished product. Only the plywood bottom and the metal rods used on the corners for added strength are purchased. All other materials are by-products of stave making. These coops are sold for \$3.25 each.

ward McKinney, manager of Pee Dee EMC. "We're interested in the success of this local industry not only from the standpoint of its power requirements, but for what it means to our entire area."

And a home-grown industry like Piedmont does mean much to a rural area. Not only does it buy and process local products with local labor—but it sells these products outside the area to bring in additional income.

## it's been said

**The News and Observer, Raleigh:** "The proposed sale of Nantahala Power and Light Company facilities to Duke Power Company boils down to whether the State is going to permit private interests to possess a portion of the state's natural resources without devoting those resources to any public use.

"Nantahala proposes to get rid of its customers by selling its distribution facilities but would retain its hydroelectric facilities . . . under the proposed sale now being considered by the State Utilities Commission.

"These hydroelectric facilities were built through the exercise of the power of eminent domain for public use, not just for the production of power for Nantahala's parent company, the Aluminum Company of America. And they should continue to serve the public."

**Jerry Voorhis, executive director of the Cooperative League:** "A cooperative business is at the very opposite pole from communism because cooperatives seek to make many people owners of their own business, whereas communism takes away ownership from everybody but the State."

**President John F. Kennedy:** "I believe that cooperative enterprises are a valuable part of our American system. In addition, they may be a means of raising living standards and counteracting the influence of communism in other nations. Certainly they should be encouraged. Greater emphasis on the development of and assistance to the cooperatives will be among the major objectives of our foreign aid programs."

**Orville Freeman, secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture:** "Our farmers are in the vanguard of the great technological revolution of the mid-Twentieth Century. They have used new knowledge to produce an agricultural science superior to any in the world. America's free farmers each year produce some 80 percent more on one-third fewer acres than the regimented farmers of the USSR."





# GOOD LIGHTING for a SAFER HOME

A SERVICE OF  
NRECA

BY JAN REYNOLDS  
Sylvania Residential Lighting Consultant



HOME, Sweet Home may be a nostalgic phrase, but Home, Safe Home is certainly a practical one. The safest home is usually the sweetest, and a little care and understanding of home accidents, their cause and cure would eliminate much sorrow, pain and unhappiness.

More accidents happen in homes than on the highways, skyways and railways. Injuries and fatalities from falls, burns, poison, suffocation, fire-arms and similar hazards around the house can be avoided. Most of them are the result of carelessness or neglect—and not the least of such carelessness and neglect is identified with the lack of adequate lighting.

Quick, sure seeing is essential in avoiding accidents—whether around stairs, paths and stairways, sharp tools and knives, or in the bathroom. Good and properly located lighting, however, can help prevent such accidents and ensure the quick and certain seeing needed.

## *Light Your Way*

The doorway to a home can be either the smile or the frown that greets a visitor. For appearance as well as for safety, the intelligent homeowner illuminates the door and steps. Many mishaps may be prevented with good lighting.

Wherever possible, a light on each side of the door is preferable, not only to help recognition of callers, but also to adequately light up the doorway and walk. If only one can be used, be sure it is mounted on the lock side of the door. If you have steps down to the walk, be sure these are well illuminated to prevent missteps and falls. The “path of light” to and from your home—front, side and back—will mean a safer home for you and your family.

A minimum of 60 watts in each socket is recommended. Remember that too bright a light can be more annoying and often more dangerous than too little light. However, any light source used should be properly shielded so that the brightness of the bulb will not be distracting to anyone coming up the walk. Make sure all outdoor convenience outlets are weatherproof, and strategically located for maximum use.

Adjustable spot or flood lighting from under eaves or overhangs of the house itself, as well as the garage, is one more way to ensure safe coming and going. Of course, these units should be located high enough, and adjusted so that they will not shine directly into anyone's eye.



The relatively new security lighting fixtures are becoming popular in rural areas. They contain a photo-electric cell which turns on the lamp at dusk and off at dawn. They provide a wide area of illumination. In addition, they are an excellent investment from a safety standpoint. You never have to stumble around the farmyard if you return home in the dark. The security light operates automatically.

## Light Your Way Inside

The danger of tripping and falling increases when articles are left on the stairs to be carried up or down later on or when children leave toys around on stairs or in hallways. That's why a shielded fixture at the top and bottom of all stairways is important. A three-way control switch—at both top and bottom of stair—will mean that fixtures can be turned on and off from both floors, to ensure safe passage from one floor to another.

Remember your basement area too. A good shielded fixture is essential here. Three-way switch control is essential. If bare bulbs are visible, when descending or ascending stairs, a sudden "blinding" from glare can cause misstep and perhaps a nasty accident. Use care in selecting your hall and stairway lighting units.

Small luminescent night lights which plug into convenience outlets—in such places as hallways, bathrooms and bedrooms—provide safe seeing for anyone walking around the house during the night time hours.

Regardless of what room in your home is to be considered—kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, living room, dining room or hallway—there should always be a light that can be snapped on immediately upon entering. Avoid stumbling blindly in the dark for a remotely located switch. Provide your home with ceiling units, or switch controlled convenience outlets into which floor, wall or table lamps may be plugged to turn on immediately.

## Light Your Work Inside

Fewer cut, bruised or burned fingers or hands will result, if you have properly located lighting in your kitchen. Direct lighting over the sink, range and other work surfaces will help ensure proper seeing. Provide lighting over ironing boards, ironers, and other equipment in your utility area. It will make your laundry duties much easier and certainly

more pleasant. Don't work in your own shadow.

Install your lighting where you need it. Be sure you locate your convenience outlets far enough away so that there is little chance of having wet hands that can easily reach a nearby plugged-in appliance or fixture that could cause a shock.

In many localities, laws prevent the placing of switches and outlets in close proximity to bathtubs or showers. In some states it is against the electrical code to install convenience outlets in the bathroom area, or even to have the light switch inside the area. It must be located

fluorescent fixture provides excellent illumination. Be sure that this unit (or units) covers at least two-thirds of the work surface. Or use a 150-watt silver bowl bulb in an appropriate reflector for every five or six feet of work bench space. Supplement either of these incandescent or fluorescent units with a 75- or 150-watt flood or spotlight—in an adjustable socket—for close, exacting work. This type of lighting will save many a cut finger or hand.

## Safety Rules

- Keep spare incandescent bulbs and fluorescent tubes handy for burnouts.



on the outside wall of the bathroom itself.

Install moisture-proof fixtures in stall showers. Illumination over bathtubs in large bathrooms is an added safety precaution. Don't take the risk of slipping on a cake of soap and injuring yourself.

Provide ample general lighting in the bathroom, plus additional lighting at the mirror area. Lighting on each side of the mirror and another unit over the top of the mirror will mean fewer razor cuts as well as smoother make-up results.

And for the workshop, have plenty of light, particularly over power tools. An industrial two-lamp, 40-watt (48-inch)

- Keep extra fuses on hand. Be sure you and other members of your family know how to replace a fuse or reset a circuit breaker.

- Be certain all fuses are of the correct amperage.

- In case of temporary power failure, have flashlight and/or candles in a number of handy spots, ready for immediate use.

- Replace all electrical switches (wall types or those used with lamps or fixtures) if they are not working properly.

- Be sure that all frayed cords or cracked plugs and coverings are replaced too.



*During the holidays*

*let your freezer be*

*a storehouse for giving*

## gifts from the kitchen



*Fruit pies, crunchy orange or citron coffee cake can be made now.*



Christmas is filled with the jingle of bells and the scent of pine, but it needn't be a time of year when you feel jangled.

Start baking now, and you'll be ready ahead of time with gifts you've made in your own kitchen.

Wrap handsome aluminum molds and pans filled with a homemade bread, pie or cake, and store in the freezer until just before gift-giving time.

They'll need an airtight lid of foil, sealed at the edges with freezer tape, needing only to be thawed for one or two hours before they're served.

If you select the pretty coppertoned aluminum pans, they'll brighten the kitchen wall or be used for years to come.

And remember—after the foods have thawed, overwrap with foil and festoon with bright ribbons and a card.

These recipes have been kitchen tested, and you may want to supplement them with your favorites.

### **Holiday Fruit Pies**

- 1 ½ cups seeded raisins
- 1 8 oz. jar ready-to-use fruits and peels
- 1 cup sugar
- 4 tablespoons cracker crumbs
- 2 eggs, slightly beaten
- Grated rind of two lemons
- 4 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons butter
- Pastry for two crust, 9 inch pie

Prepare pastry from favorite recipe or mix in usual manner for lattice-topped pie. Combine all ingredients in saucepan and cook over low heat, stirring constantly until slightly thickened. Cool. Pour into a pastry lined 9-inch foil pie plate. Top with latticed crust. Freeze either before or after baking. Wrap in aluminum foil to freeze.

To bake from frozen state, place the pie in a hot (450 degree) oven and bake 20 minutes or until lightly browned. Reduce temperature to 350 degrees and bake 20 minutes longer. To bake before freezing, place in hot (450 degree) oven and bake 12 minutes, reduce temperature to 350 degrees and bake 20 minutes longer. To serve, thaw and warm for 10 minutes at 300 degrees.

### **Candied Orange Coffee Cake**

- ¾ cup sugar
- ¼ cup butter or margarine
- 1 egg
- ½ cup milk
- 1 ½ cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 4 teaspoons candied orange peel, finely minced
- 1 tablespoon grated orange rind

Blend sugar, shortening and egg until light and fluffy. Add milk and dry ingredients alternately; then orange peel and rind, stirring until just combined. Pour into a greased star-shaped mold (9 inches from point to point). Sprinkle with a topping made by blending following ingredients together to crumb consistency.

- ½ cup sugar
- ⅓ cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon grated orange rind
- 4 tablespoons candied orange peel, chopped
- ¼ cup butter or margarine

Bake in moderately hot oven (375 degrees) for 25 to 35 minutes. To freeze, cool; then cover top of pan with aluminum foil and seal to edge by crimping. To serve, remove foil and heat in moderate oven (350 degrees) 20 minutes, if frozen; 10 minutes, if defrosted.

### **Citron Cake**

- ½ cup butter or margarine
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 eggs
- 2 cups sifted cake flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ cup milk
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon brandy, sherry or vanilla
- 1 cup citron, thinly sliced, then cut in strips

Cream butter, add sugar; then egg yolks and beat until light. Sift dry ingredients together and add alternately with milk. Add the flavoring and citron. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Pour into an aluminum mold approximately 10 inches in diameter and two inches deep. Bake in a moderate oven (350 degrees) 50 to 60 minutes.

Frost with a simple confectioners sugar icing. Decorate with holly leaves cut from citron, and berries from candied or maraschino cherries.



## **NEEDLE MAGIC**

□ Add cheerful Christmas decorations to plain terry towels, and you can use them as gifts or in your own home.

Materials for basket cover: One white terry cloth bath towel, white bias binding, red cording and ball fringe, green polished cotton or broadcloth, elastic and paper for pattern.

First make paper pattern for bottom cover. Place basket on paper, and draw around bottom. Cut pattern ½ inch larger around for seam allowance.

Use paper pattern to cut piece of fabric for bottom cover from one end of towel. Fit remaining length of towel around basket. Allow ½ inch seam at bottom edge, ½ at center lengthwise seam and 1½ inches at top.

\* \* \*

A heavier than normal machine needle (Singer experts suggest a No. 516) should be used in sewing terry cloth, and a loose stitch, about 10 stitches per inch. Use a zigzag stitch on raw edges before sewing seams.

Stitch center lengthwise seam. Then stitch bottom section to top section, inserting red cording in seam.

At top edge of cover, make a casing with bias binding. Leave ½ inch opening to insert elastic. Stitch ball fringe 3½ inches from top edge of cover, and tack green holly leaves in place. Insert elastic in casing to fit top of basket. Slip cover on basket.

\* \* \*

Bath towel appliques: First make patterns for appliques or use transfer designs from needlework books. (Many stores have readycut felt Christmas emblems.) Then cut out appliques and add trimmings.

When attaching appliques by machine, place a piece of cotton organdy on the wrong side of the towel.



# Woman Talk



...with Lee

## The ticking clock...

The letter to the column editor was sandwiched between a request for a pound cake recipe and another asking for a quilt pattern.

It was printed in a rural magazine published in the mid-west for one of the rural electric cooperatives.

This is what it said:

*"I would like to buy an old-fashioned clock that strikes. I don't care what it looks like, as long as it keeps time and strikes. I live alone and think this would keep me from being so lonely."*

At this point, I should stop writing, because it is really unnecessary to draw a picture in words about this solitary woman, somewhere, who wants an end to silence.

But for all of the women whose children have grown up and left home it will have a special meaning.

\* \* \*

*There is no house so silent as the one that children have left. When you think of this woman, yearning for the very striking of a clock, you wonder.*

Is it her fault that she is lonely? Does she garden, does she visit the sick, does she belong to a church? Does she walk, just for the sake of walking, to escape the silence of the house?

Is her home a friendly place to visit, and does she make each visitor welcome, or does she complain of her lot?

Or perhaps her house is shining clean, too clean, and she looks in the mailbox in vain each morning for mail from those she loves.

Perhaps she keeps the hours filled, canning and preserving and taking gifts of baked goods to those in need of a thoughtful gesture.

*And yet the holidays come, when all the world seems to be a family. And she is alone.*

Certainly, none can preach to those who may know the answer better. But along with my special Christmas wishes for much happiness for you, I have a special one for that lonely woman.

I hope that she is not alone, this or any Christmas, listening to the chimes of a clock.



## Kissing Ring

"KISSING RING"—to hang in a doorway or from a chandelier—is fashioned from embroidery hoops, wrapped with gold ribbon and studded with sequins. A similarly-decorated bouillon-cube container conceals the small light bulb (and socket) which highlights the mistletoe. To wire the "kissing ring," Westinghouse experts explain that an electric cord runs up the inside surface of one of the hoops (before it is ribbon-wrapped, of course), then through the greenery and is plugged into the nearest convenience outlet.



## Pink Glow

TABLE DECORATION with individuality has readymade electric candle and holder, finished in pink and white and dusted with gold glitter. To give it the personal touch, Westinghouse lighting experts placed a string of pink tree lights in the holder (lining it first with asbestos), covered the lights with angel hair and, as an accent note, arranged gold beads on top of the angel hair. Flame-shaped bulb in the candle is pink.





## Recipes from Carolina Homemakers

### *These are holiday*

#### *favorites:*

Her family wouldn't think it was Christmas if she didn't make Oyster Dressing, writes Mrs. Bodell Outlaw of Deep Run, N. C. The Outlaws are members of Tri-County EMC, and they have been married 26 years. Their four children, now grown, like this:

#### *Oyster Dressing*

- 2 to 3 cups turkey stock, with giblets
- 1 quart oysters
- 1 dozen hardcooked eggs
- 2 to 3 lbs. crackers
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper

Bring oysters to boil in turkey stock. Chop eggs and giblets. Crumble 2½ lbs. of crackers. Pour oysters and stock over mixture of eggs, crackers and black pepper. Mix well. If not as stiff as you like, add remainder of crackers crumbs and blend. Stuff turkey just before roasting, and mold rest of stuffing in bowl.

\* \* \*

Mrs. Oscar Webb Sr. of Bakersville, N. C., lives on Route One. "My family just loves this pie, even to the crust. This is their favorite recipe."

#### *Pumpkin Pie*

- 1½ cups cooked or canned pumpkin
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon mace
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 cup sweet milk

Mix pumpkin, sugar, cinnamon, salt, mace, ginger and cloves. Beat eggs slight-

ly and add milk. Add to pumpkin mixture and mix until smooth. Pour into unbaked pastry shell and bake in hot oven, 450 degrees, for 10 minutes. Reduce heat to a slow oven, 300 degrees, and continue baking 45 minutes, or until a knife inserted in center comes out clean. Serve with whipped cream and chopped nuts.

#### *Pastry Shell*

- 1 cup flour (self rising, or add a pinch of salt and 1/2 teaspoon baking powder)
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup shortening
- 2 to 4 tablespoons cold water

Sift together dry ingredients. Cut or rub in shortening. Sprinkle with water, mixing lightly until dough sticks together. Turn onto pastry cloth. Press dough together. Roll out 1/8 inch thick and fit into 9-inch pie pan. Trim and flute edges. Fill with pumpkin filling.

\* \* \*

A three and a half month old son keeps Mrs. Jack B. Brintle busy, but she still found time to send us her recipe for a delectable German Chocolate Pound Cake. The Brintles live on Route 4 at Mount Airy and are members of Surry-Yadkin EMC.

#### *German Chocolate Pound Cake*

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup shortening
- 4 eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 3 cups sifted all purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 package German's Sweet Chocolate

Cream sugar and shortening. Add eggs, flavors and buttermilk. Sift together flour, soda and salt and add. Mix well. Add chocolate that has been softening in warm oven or in double boiler. Blend well. Bake in 9-inch, angel-food type pan with center hole that has been greased and dusted with flour. Bake about 1½ hours at 300 degrees. Test with a toothpick. If done, toothpick will come out clean. Place cake under a tight-fitting cake cover while still hot and leave until cold.

#### *Coconut Pecan Frosting*

Combine 1/2 cup evaporated milk, 1/2 cup sugar, 2 small egg yolks, 1/4 pound margarine and 1/2 teaspoon vanilla. Cook and stir over medium heat until thickened about 12 minutes. Add 3/4 cup angel flake coconut and 1/3 cup chopped pecans. Beat until thick enough to spread and frost top of cake.

\* \* \*

Mrs. Mildred E. Miller of Franklin prefers country butter for her favorite deep dish apple pie. "And North Carolina apples," she adds.

#### *Deep Dish Apple Pie*

- 12 tart cooking apples
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 cup sifted flour
- 1/2 cup brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1/2 cup butter
- Sweet cream

Pare apples and cut into small pieces into a bowl. Stir in granulated sugar and lemon juice to coat fruit. Spoon into a buttered baking dish. Combine flour and brown sugar in same bowl. Cut in butter with two knives. Sprinkle over apples and pat down. Bake in a moderate oven, 350 degrees, for 45 minutes. Serve warm with sweet cream. Serves 6.



# Teen ROUND TABLE

## *Should a girl be allowed to return to school after marriage?*

In normal cases, I think yes. If a person ever needed an education, I think a married person needs one in order to make more secure the possibility of getting a job if she should ever have to have one to help pay the bills. It takes courage for a girl to go back to school after marriage. Many times they are not allowed to do things that the rest of the class is allowed to do.



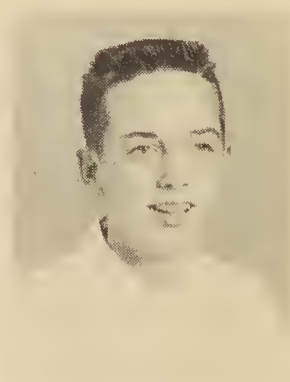
Linda Smith  
Burke-McDowell EMC



Jack Sineath  
Central EMC

Yes, if she didn't plan to start a family at that time. Education isn't easy to come by, and you can't pick it up just anywhere. A girl should be highly congratulated who returns to school after marriage. If she plans to have a family, she should devote all her time to that cause. In the future, the girl will be very glad that she continued school no matter what anybody said about her being married.

To exclude a married girl from school and from completing her education would make it more difficult for her to obtain a suitable job. If she wants to work for a while to help get their marriage on a sound financial basis, it would be essential for her to complete high school. While she is attending school, she has the opportunity to take home economics, general business and other courses that will prepare her to be a good homemaker.



Seth Barrow  
Pitt & Greene EMC



Loretta Respess  
Woodstock EMC

I think definitely not. When a girl gets married her place is in her home. Her life becomes very different from that of other girls in the school. The things a married girl would have to talk about would not be the same as the single girl. A married girl might unintentionally make her kind of life look like the best or the worst. The housewife schoolgirl would be cheating both her house and school work.

## Got a Question?

Have you a question you'd like answered by our panel? If so, send it to the Teen Roundtable, the Carolina Farmer, P. O. Box 1699, Raleigh, N. C. Include the following information: your name, school and grade, name of parents, address, name of electric membership corporation, and your special interests and talents. If your question is chosen for the panel to answer, we will send you \$5.

This month's question was submitted by Elsie Hilliard, Box 167, Route 1, Halifax, N. C. Elsie is a junior in the Inbarden High School in Enfield, and her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hilliard, members of the Roanoke EMC. A member of the 4-H Club, Elsie also is active in the Dramatic Club, N.H.A., FFA and the student council. Her hobbies are sewing and canning. She will receive a check for \$5 from The Carolina Farmer for her question.





**HOOVER DAM**—highest in the United States at 726 feet.

**ROCKY REACH**—new \$273 million hydro-electric project on Columbia River.



**M**AN has grappled rivers since the dawn of history. One of Egypt's fabled pharaohs built a dam across the mighty Nile in the 19th Century B. C. Ancient Romans were busy dam-builders. The Pueblo Indians developed ir-

rigation dams in the Southwest some 800 years ago.

But it wasn't until the 20th Century that dam-building achieved prominence as a challenge to the finest engineering skills.

By making it economical to build dams in remote areas, electric power opened the way for such gigantic structures as the Grand Coulee, which contains over seven times as much masonry as the Great Pyramid of Cheops in Egypt, and the majestic Hoover dam, at 726 feet the highest in the United States.

Before electricity, dams were built for irrigation, flood control, water-storing reservoirs, and channels of navigation. In some ways, early dams rivaled modern counterparts as engineering marvels.

In Ceylon many centuries ago, a reservoir was formed by a man-made dike 11 miles long and 70 feet high, with total volume of 17 million cubic yards of earth. In ancient India, water was impounded behind a man-made barrier stretching 30 miles—and they did it without bulldozers!

Archaeologists have turned evidence that early inhabitants of the Chama River basin—in what is now New Mexico—built a fairly extensive network of small dams and canals to irrigate their fields.

Dams come in all shapes and sizes. Some are squat and long, others high and narrow. Some are arched, some straight, some Z-shaped. Key factors governing a dam's size and shape are location, purpose, and cost.

In early days, dams were usually made of earth, rock-fill, or crude masonry. Even today, earth dams are important. One of the biggest is Fort Peck dam on the Missouri River, with its 100 million cubic yards of earth.

California's Trinity dam, a 537-foot

# our mighty DAMS



embankment, is one of the world's highest earth-fill dams, and work has started on Oroville dam, near Trinity, which will rise 735 feet to become the highest dam of any type in the United States and the biggest man-made earth project anywhere.

For the sight-seer, high masonry dams like Hoover, the Shasta on California's Sacramento River, and the Bartlett on Arizona's Verde River are most spectacular. High dams originated in Spain three centuries ago. Later, French dam-builders pioneered the designs that whetted word-wide interest in the mammoth structures.

Dam-building in this country entered its modern era in 1902 when Congress passed the Reclamation Act, and such great dams as the Roosevelt in Arizona and the Shoshone in Wyoming were built in early 1900's.

But engineers rewrote their record books several times in the decades to follow, as dam-building passed important milestones.

● In 1927, engineers poured 700,000 cubic yards of concrete across the flood-swept Susquehanna River to shape the mile-long Conowingo dam and harness electricity for Philadelphia 70 miles away. At that time it was the largest power project ever built in one step.

● In 1936, the huge Hoover dam tamed the surging Colorado River. This colossus, on the Arizona-Nevada border, surpassed anything ever before attempted in man's unceasing quest to dominate his rivers. It was the highest, biggest, mightiest.

● In 1942, new records were set by the Grand Coulee on Washington's Columbia river. Containing 10,600,000 cubic yards of concrete, it was the world's largest masonry structure. Over its spillway could pass 1,000,000 cubic feet of water per second, or five times the normal flow at Niagara Falls.

In other lands, dam-building has picked up momentum since World War II. Italy has just completed the 870-foot Vaiont dam, highest in the world. India is finishing the 680-foot Bhakra dam. Switzerland is building the massive Grand Dixence dam in the Swiss Alps in the face of incredible obstacles—snow and threat of avalanche limit work to five months a year. When finished in

1966, Grand Dixence will be world's loftiest at 922 feet.

But the Russians may grab that honor from the Swiss a few years later, for they have disclosed plans to build a 990-foot concrete dam on the Ingouri river near Stalingrad.

Cream of the 1961 crop of U. S. dams is Rocky Reach, a \$273 million hydro-electric project on the Columbia river near Wenatchee, Washington. Out of this huge facility will soon flow 775,000 kilowatts, and eventually over 1,200,000 to help power the Pacific Northwest's wheels of industry.

Meanwhile, even bigger new dams are taking shape, as engineers rise to the challenge of rivers, one of nature's mightiest and most productive forces.



**GRAND DIXENCE**—massive dam taking shape in the Swiss Alps will be world's highest, 922 feet, when completed.

# Let's go HUNTING



"I'm the best guide in the state, but heaven only knows what state we're in."

By **WILLIAM BARBER**

"O.K., O.K. Now fetch!"

PHOTO CREDITS: Hoover Dam—Union Pacific Railroad. Rocky Reach—Stone & Webster. Grand Dixence—Swiss National Tourist Office.



# Food—or 'Groceries'

THE FOOD bill and the grocery bill are two different things these days.

A recent study by the Agricultural Experiment Station at Purdue University, in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service, shows that nearly 80 percent of the shoppers in food stores put at least one nonfood item in their baskets. Six percent have nothing else.

And it all goes on the "grocery" bill.

As each year passes, more and more nonfood items are being added to grocery shelves—and to customer's shopping carts.

In the Indianapolis area, where the survey was made, an average of \$4.59 is spent for a "basket of groceries," which includes two nonfood and 10 food items.

Tobacco products lead the list of nonfood items in dollar value. Soaps and detergents, health and beauty aids come next, followed closely by "household care" items and paper products (such as napkins, tissues, paper plates and cups).

Men make more nonfood purchases than women. If a man shops alone, one out of every five items he puts into his cart will be nonfood. Women shoppers buy only 17 percent nonfood items.

While men add the most "extras" to their food lists, they are not particularly big spenders. In the stores studied, a man shopping alone spent an average of \$3.09; his wife, also alone, bought \$4.21 worth of groceries. Together, they averaged \$8.77, and if they brought the kids along, the bill ran to \$11.47.

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## AROUND THE HOUSE *by Archie Hathcock*



Now is a good time to get an electric blanket. These bed coverings are light and will provide all the warmth you need, even on the coldest nights.

A hint for best blanket operation: Find the warmth level you like on the control and set it there before going to bed. The blanket will preheat to the level you set. Setting the control higher than you need does not make the blanket heat faster. It only makes it warmer.

Every furnace and house, regardless of how tightly they are built, loses heat during cold weather. The amount of insulation determines how much heat is lost.

You can reduce the heat losses in your home by: (1) insulating the ceil-

ings; (2) sealing the joints in furnace ducts with duct tape; and (3) closing the air vents around the foundation of the house. (NOTE: Be sure to open these vents before warm weather to prevent the collection of moisture under the house.)

An additional step you can take is the installation of storm windows. Clear polyethylene plastic makes good one-season storm windows.

If your hot water nearly scalds you when you turn it on, chances are that your thermostat setting is too high. If so, you're paying more than necessary for your hot water.

Water heater thermostats are calibrated either by degrees or by "high-medium-low" settings. Those calibrated by degrees should be set on about 150. Others should be set on the "medium" setting.

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# Better Rural Housing

□ THE EXPANDED rural housing program authorized by the Housing Act of 1961 became effective in October.

Under the new law, owners of housing sites in rural areas and in small rural communities of not more than 2,500 may be eligible for housing loans made by the USDA's Farmers Home Administration. Previously these loans were available only to farmers.

"The expanded program will be an important new tool in promoting development of rural areas," Howard Bertsch, FHA administrator, pointed out. "Rural housing loans not only will help families obtain better homes but will put more carpenters, plumbers, and electricians to work, and will increase sales in lumber and building supply firms."

Housing loans are made for construc-

tion, repair, and remodeling of dwellings and essential farm buildings. In addition to major construction, funds are available to modernize homes—add bathrooms, central heating, modern kitchens, and other home improvements, as well as to enlarge and remodel farm service buildings and put in related facilities such as paved feedlots, and to provide water for farmstead and household use.

Rural housing loans also may be used for construction of fallout and storm shelters.

The interest rate is four percent per year on the unpaid balance of the loan. Loans may be scheduled for repayment over periods up to 33 years.

The proposed housing must be adequate to meet the family's needs, yet modest in size and design.

The local county supervisor of the Farmers Home Administration reviews

building plans and inspects the housing construction as it progresses to make certain the borrower obtains sound and acceptable construction.

To be eligible an applicant must own a farm or a housing site in a rural area or in a small rural community; be without decent, safe and sanitary housing; be unable to obtain the needed credit from other sources; and be without sufficient resources to provide the necessary housing on his own account. To obtain a loan he must have or be able to obtain enough income to meet payments on all of his debts and also take care of his other expenses.

Applications for rural housing loans are made at the local county office of the Farmers Home Administration.

The local county or area committee of the Farmers Home Administration determines the eligibility of applicants.

**1961  
TERRITORIAL  
LEGISLATION**

# Six States Make Progress

A ROUNDUP OF 1961 state legislation shows that the rural electric systems in six states made progress in their efforts to secure territorial protection.

In only two states, however, did rural electrics win impressive victories to safeguard their service areas against the encroachment of other power suppliers.

As matters stand now, rural electrics in most states have little or no assurance that they will be able to go on serving members in those sections of their areas threatened by municipal annexation.

The problem continually grows more acute as towns all over the nation expand their boundaries, gobbling up co-op territory. Power suppliers, franchised by these towns, take over co-op customers resulting in heavy financial and member-

ship losses for rural electrics.

The co-op systems invested millions of dollars to pioneer electric service in areas surrounding rural communities when other power suppliers refused to serve these then unincorporated sections.

Thus, rural electrics point out, they have a right to keep their lines and customers in these annexed areas. Nevertheless, in only a handful of states have rural electrics obtained legislation allowing them to retain their lines in areas taken in by municipalities.

While rural electrics won clear-cut territorial protection in Wisconsin and Oklahoma, those in four other states won partial protection. These included Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico and Oregon. In the first three, rural electrics

sought to solve their problems by going under the jurisdiction of state regulatory commissions. They hope that the commissions will give them a fair shake when it comes to territorial disputes with other power suppliers.

In Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Utah, rural electrics failed to get protective legislation.

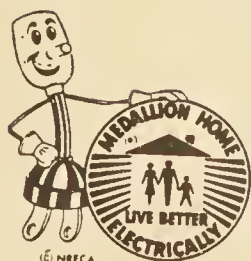
In Texas, rural electrics tried in vain to persuade their state legislators to revise restrictive laws passed in former years. Idaho systems failed in their attempt to amend a 1957 anti-duplication law. Illinois rural electrics were unsuccessful in their efforts to secure exemption from jurisdiction of that state's regulatory commission. (NRECA)



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## What More?

An Army general was making an inspection of mess halls overseas. At an isolated post in Saudi Arabia, he called the mess officer—a second lieutenant—on the mat for inefficiency. After the general had chewed him out, the lieutenant turned on his heel without saluting.

"Lieutenant," the general shouted, "do you realize what I can do to you for not saluting?"

The lieutenant turned around very slowly. "Sir," he replied, "I am a second lieutenant, I am in Saudi Arabia, and I am a mess officer. Just what more can you do to me?"

\* \* \*

## City Boy

A little city boy spent a night at the farm for the first time. Much earlier than he generally arose, he was awakened by the activity around him and he remarked to his grandmother: "Gee, it doesn't take long to stay all night here, does it?"

\* \* \*

## Wise Cracks

... To err is human—but generally a much better excuse is demanded.

... The easiest way for a driver to lose control of a car is to forget to make the payments.

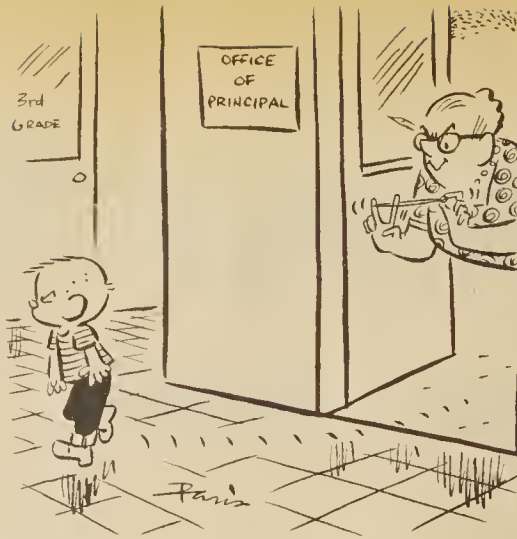
... Smile—a curve that can set a lot of things straight.

... Saving money isn't a challenge—it's an out-and-out victory.

\* \* \*



"It's beginning to flicker now, dear."



## Squelched

And there's the one about the veteran reporter who was criticizing the freshly-submitted copy of a cub reporter.

"This isn't a news story! Who are you trying to impress? Using big words doesn't show how bright you are. The essence of language is to communicate. You've got to write for the masses. Use plain words for plain people. Write it so that even the simplest mind can understand it."

The younger man sat back with a thoughtful expression on his face, and asked, "What part didn't you get?"

\* \* \*

## Rendezvous

"Just where are you going?" asked the wife of her poor husband, who was heading for the bank where he intended to try to renew a mortgage loan.

"Oh," replied the harried husband, "I have a rendezvous with debt."

\* \* \*

## Lucky

"Will your wife hit the ceiling when you get in this late?"

"Probably. She's a heck of a poor shot."

\* \* \*

## Newlyweds

The newlyweds were driving away from the church. The groom pulled the bride toward him, put his arm around her shoulder, kissed her and said, "Now, Honey, what's this silly nonsense about you quitting your job?"

\* \* \*

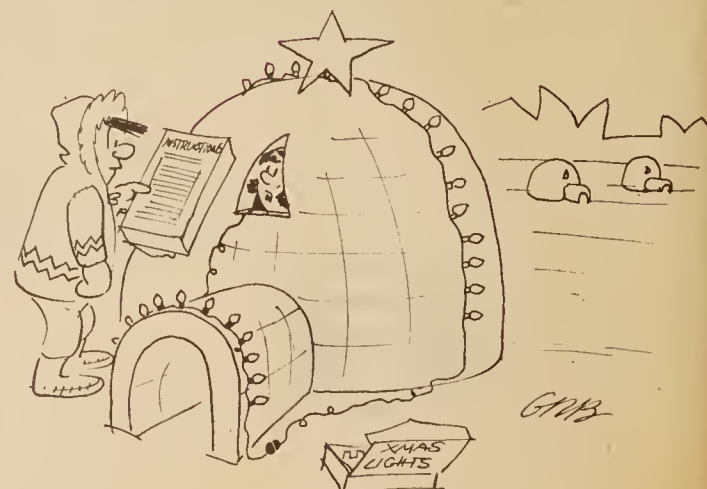
## Wild West

Some youngsters were playing Wild West. One of the more enterprising had dragged out an old packing box, made a bar out of it and scrawled a sign on it which read: "This is the Wild West and this is the Last Chance Saloon."

Another kid ran up, pounded on the box and said, "I'll have a rye."

A third, much younger and apparently less sophisticated, staggered up alongside him and squeaked, "I'll have a whole wheat."

\* \* \*



"Plug it into what?"

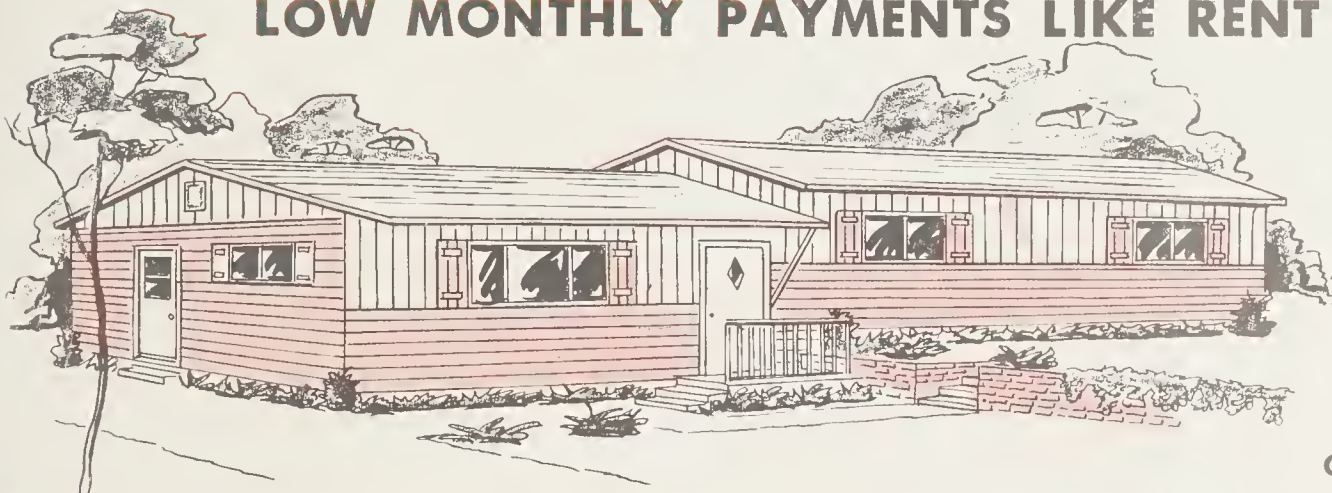


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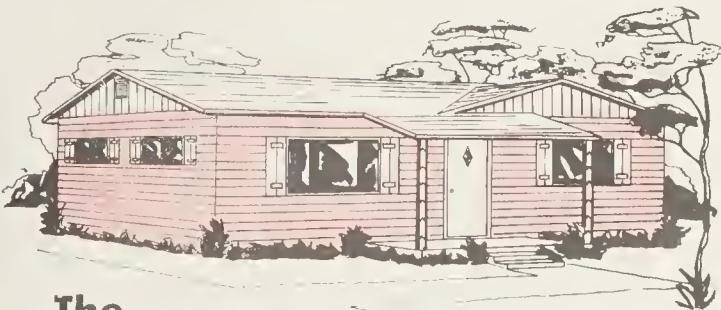
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